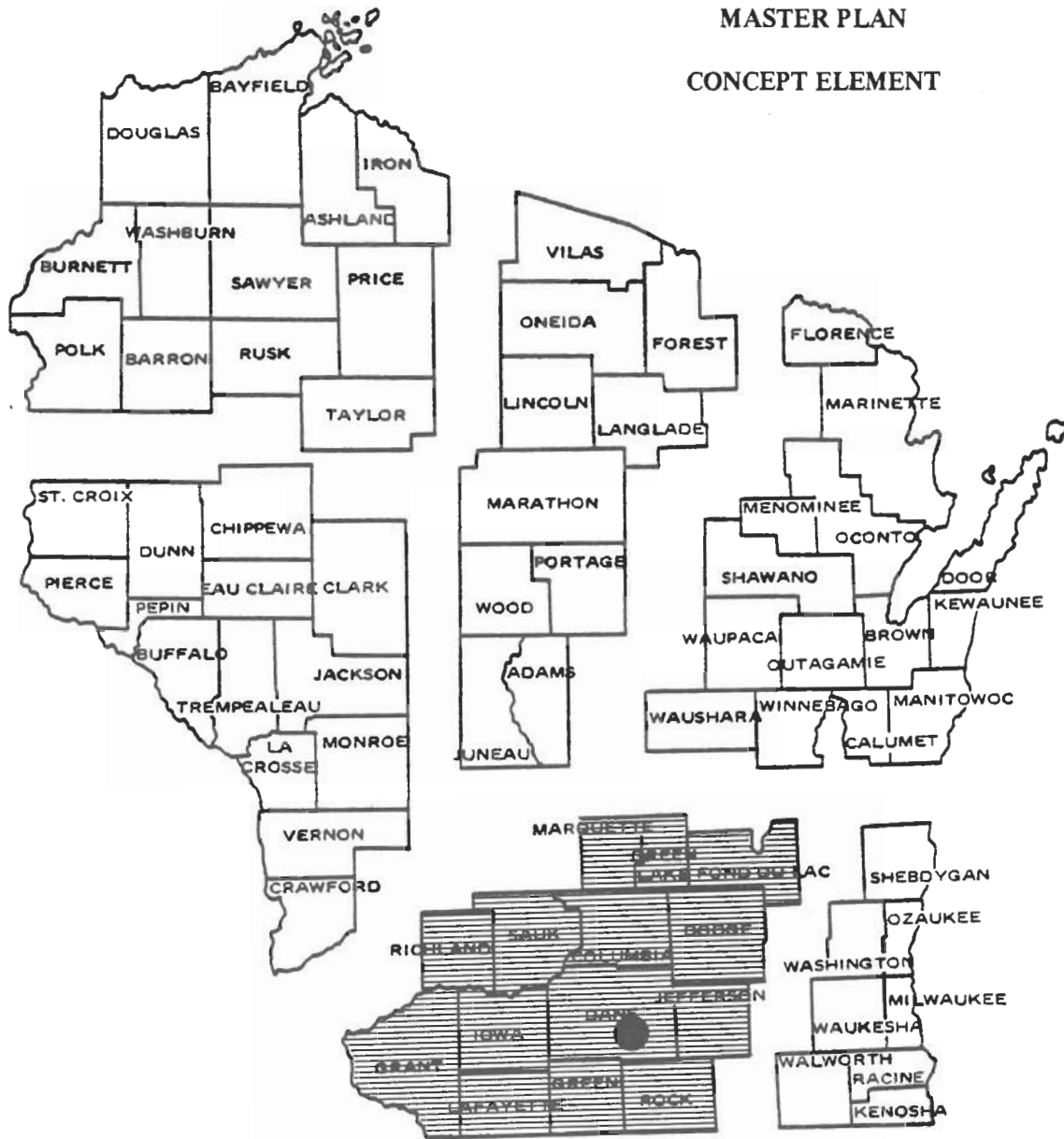


LAKE KEGONSA

STATE PARK

MASTER PLAN

CONCEPT ELEMENT



Property Task Force

Leader: David Aslakson - Park Planner  
Jon Berquist - Wildlife Manager  
Clifford Brynildson - Fish Manager  
Paul Pingrey - Forester  
Robert Weiss - Park Superintendent

Approved By: MRB

Date: 2-22-84

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
MADISON, WISCONSIN

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## Lake Kegonsa State Park

### SECTION I - ACTIONS

#### A. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

##### Goal

Provide a state park which will serve the recreational, educational, and nature experience needs of 230,000 park visitors each year while preserving and protecting the resource for future generations.

##### Annual Objectives

1. Preserve and maintain the park, including the 60-acre prairie, the 70-acre wetlands, and the Indian mounds.
2. Provide and maintain day-use recreational areas including picnic grounds, beach and sunning areas, and play fields for 150,000 users.
3. Provide a quality recreational experience for 32,000 campers by maintaining both family and outdoor group camping facilities.
4. Provide trail facilities for 35,000 nature, hiking, and cross-country ski users.
5. Provide launch access to Lake Kegonsa for 20,000 boaters.
6. Accommodate individuals who are handicapped or disadvantaged through the proper design, construction, and management of the property and its facilities.

##### Additional Benefits

1. Provide opportunities for bird watching and wildlife viewing, especially in the wetland area.

#### B. RECOMMENDED DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The recommended development and management program for Lake Kegonsa follows the "moderate improvement over existing use and development" alternative selected as the most suitable for the park. Under this alternative, the following improvements, when completed, would accommodate about ten percent more park users per year. The management problems as addressed in the master plan on page 9 would be studied and solved. The acquisition of 11 acres of land would contribute to protecting the aesthetic and visual integrity of the park.

## 1. Development

- a. Construct a standard bathhouse with restrooms, and changing stalls in the beach area. This action would be contingent upon the construction of a sewer line into the area or for an acceptable alternative treatment of bathhouse sewage.
- b. Construct a standard 6-stall shower building to serve campers in the existing family campground.
- c. Expand the family campground from 80 to 100 units if camping use continues to increase at its present rate. There was a seven percent increase in camping in 1981 compared to the previous year. Through August of 1982, camping use was six percent higher than through August of 1981. The campground filled every weekend during the summer in 1982 with an estimated 20-30 turn-aways per weekend day. Support facilities would include blacktop road, toilets, drinking water, tables, grills, landscaping, signing, and trash receptacles.
- d. Construct two open picnic shelters, one in the area of the beach and the other in the picnic area near the boat launch.
- e. Eliminate snowmobile trails from the property. The Department will assist in finding an alternate route around the park.
- f. Additional tree and shrub plantings on the periphery of the park, in the picnic areas and in the group camp.
- g. Establish and maintain a sand blanket for the beach area. The existing beach surface is composed of large pebbles and is generally uncomfortable to bathers.

Total estimated development cost in 1984 dollars is \$319,000. Accomplishment of the development proposed in this plan will be dependent upon available funds and statewide priorities. Additional and/or up-to-date justification will also be required.

## 2. Management

### a. Water Resources

Depending on climatic conditions, extensive dredging may be required every 10 years in the vicinity of the boat launch to eliminate potential boat damage and to improve the quality for human use and enjoyment. This action would require a dredging permit.

Use a slick boom in the vicinity of the beach to reduce the algae problem.

b. Vegetative

Because much of the overstory in the campground area is deteriorating due to the old age of the trees, removal of cull trees combined with tree planting is recommended to maintain a healthy forest cover.

Some dead and old trees in the undeveloped areas of the park will be retained for nesting and feeding birds.

Brush control of honeysuckle and prickly ash will be limited to the campground. Both species are useful for screening in the immediate campsite area, but their aggressiveness in other areas of the campground inhibits growth of more desirable understory species.

Periodic burns will be conducted to maintain the prairie. When good seed crops occur switchgrass seed will be harvested for establishing cover on other Department properties.

c. Facility

The property is managed by the superintendent of the Dane County Work Unit with on-site assistance of a Park Ranger I and II, limited-term employees and volunteer programs.

d. Revenue Potential

Based on 1983 revenues, the percent of revenue to operations cost for the park is 38 percent. Estimated camping revenue generated by the proposed 20-unit campground addition could increase the revenue to operations percentage by about four percent if occupancy of the addition is the same as the current rate. Some increase in admission sticker revenues could also be expected if more campers were attracted to the park.

e. Roads, Entrances and Private Inholdings

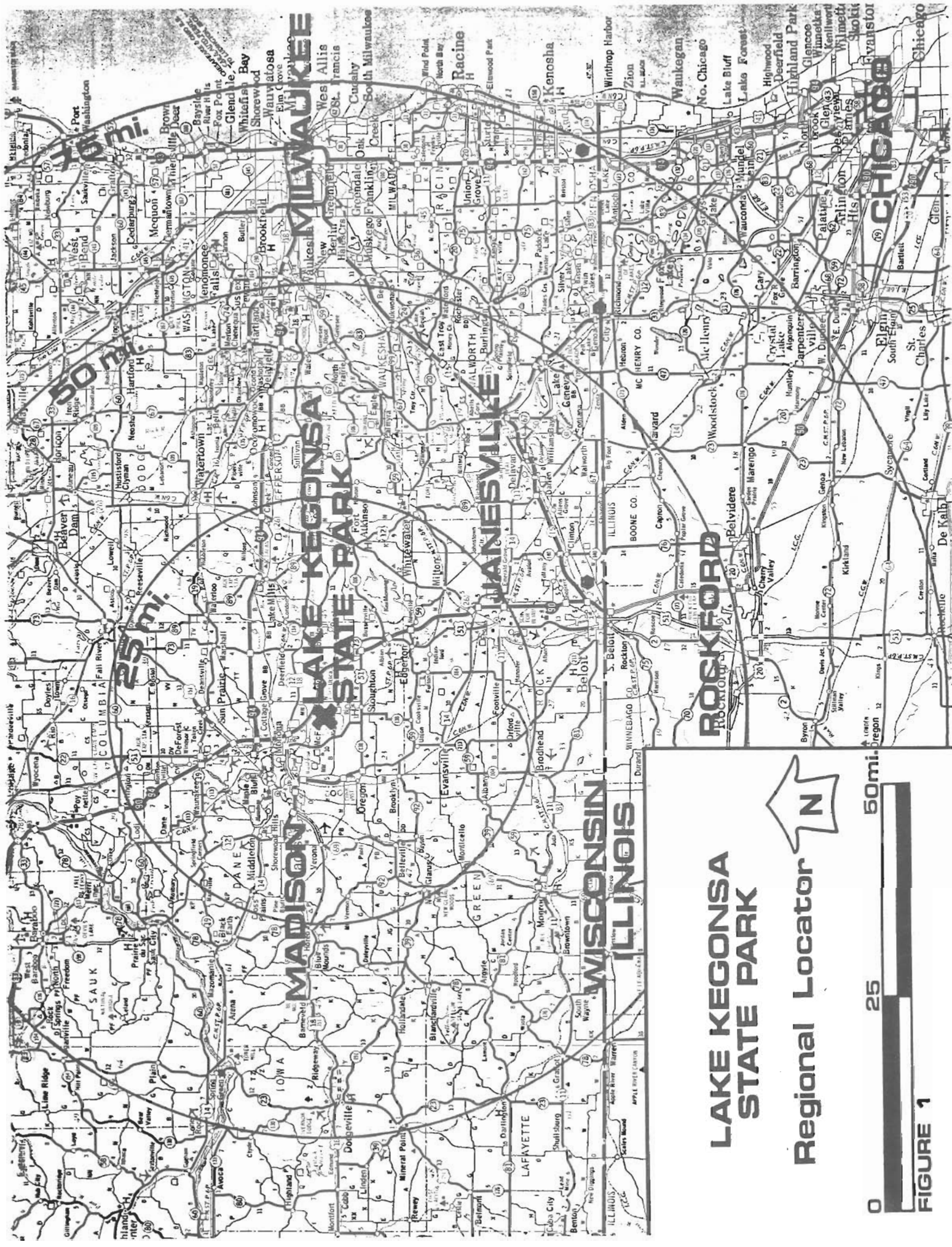
A town road bisects the park but through the use of an overpass, fencing, and signing there is no access to the park.

Lake Kegonsa is a one-entrance park with a park entrance/visitor station which provides service to the visiting public in the form of efficient collection of the vehicle admission sticker fees, enforcement of the sticker regulation, registration of campers, and dispensing of useful park information to the visitor.

There are no private inholdings within the park boundaries which affect the Department's ability to operate the property.

3. Land Acquisition (Fig. 3)

The present acreage goal of 342.81 acres has been met. It is proposed that the project boundary be expanded by 11 acres bringing the goal to 353.81 acres. Currently the 11-acre parcel is within the Lake Kegonsa Urban Service Area which means that it has been determined to be an area suitable for development and to be served by sanitary sewer. The 11 acres is zoned partly A-1 Exclusive Agriculture (9 acres) and B-1 Local Business (2 acres). If the 9-acre portion were removed from under the Urban Service Area and the A-1 Exclusive zoning retained, the objective of protecting the view from within the park from residential development could be achieved without acquiring the land. This would have to be worked out in concert with the landowner, the town, and the county.



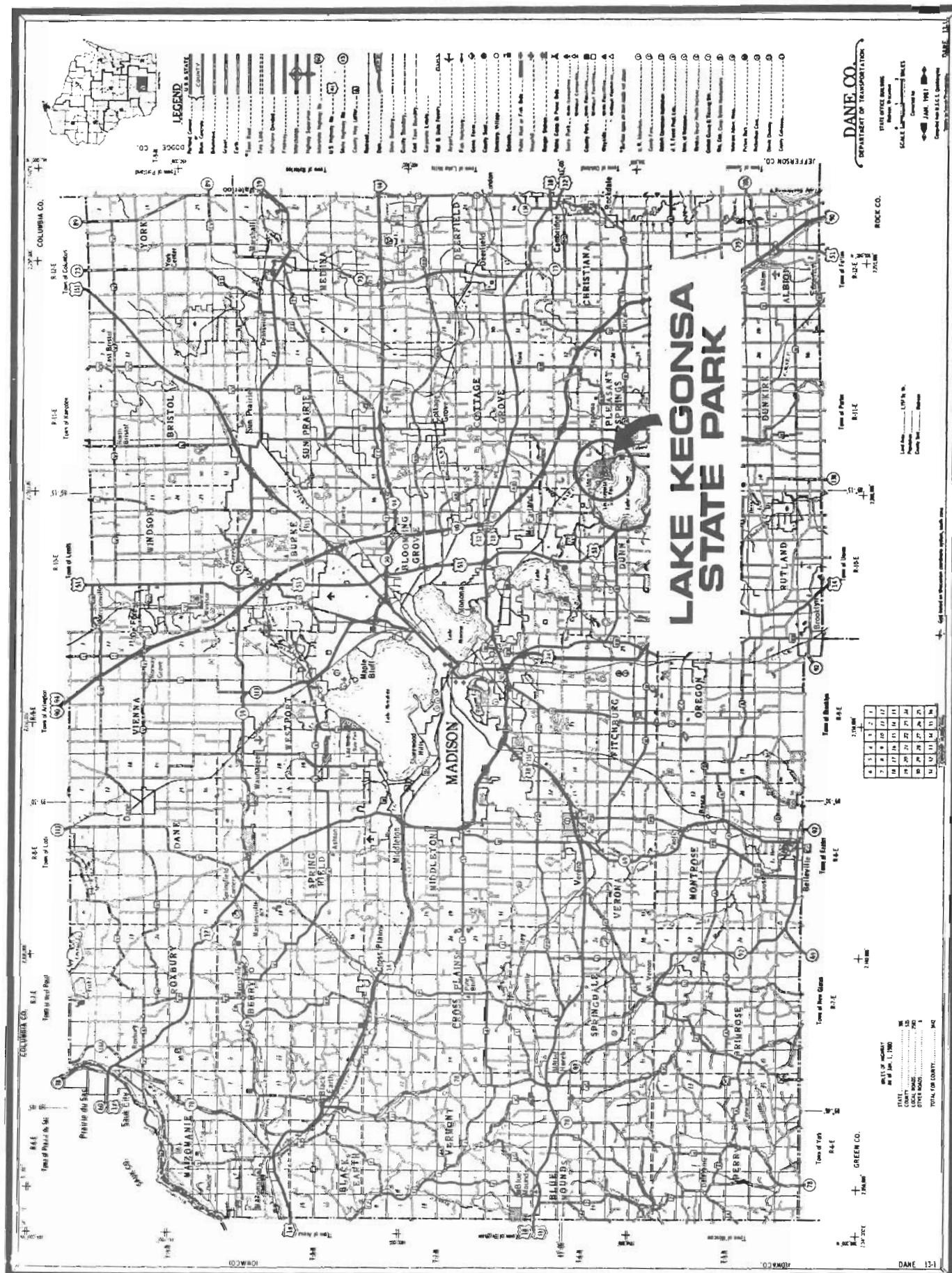
# LAKE KEGONSA STATE PARK

Regional Locator

25

50mi.

FIGURE 1



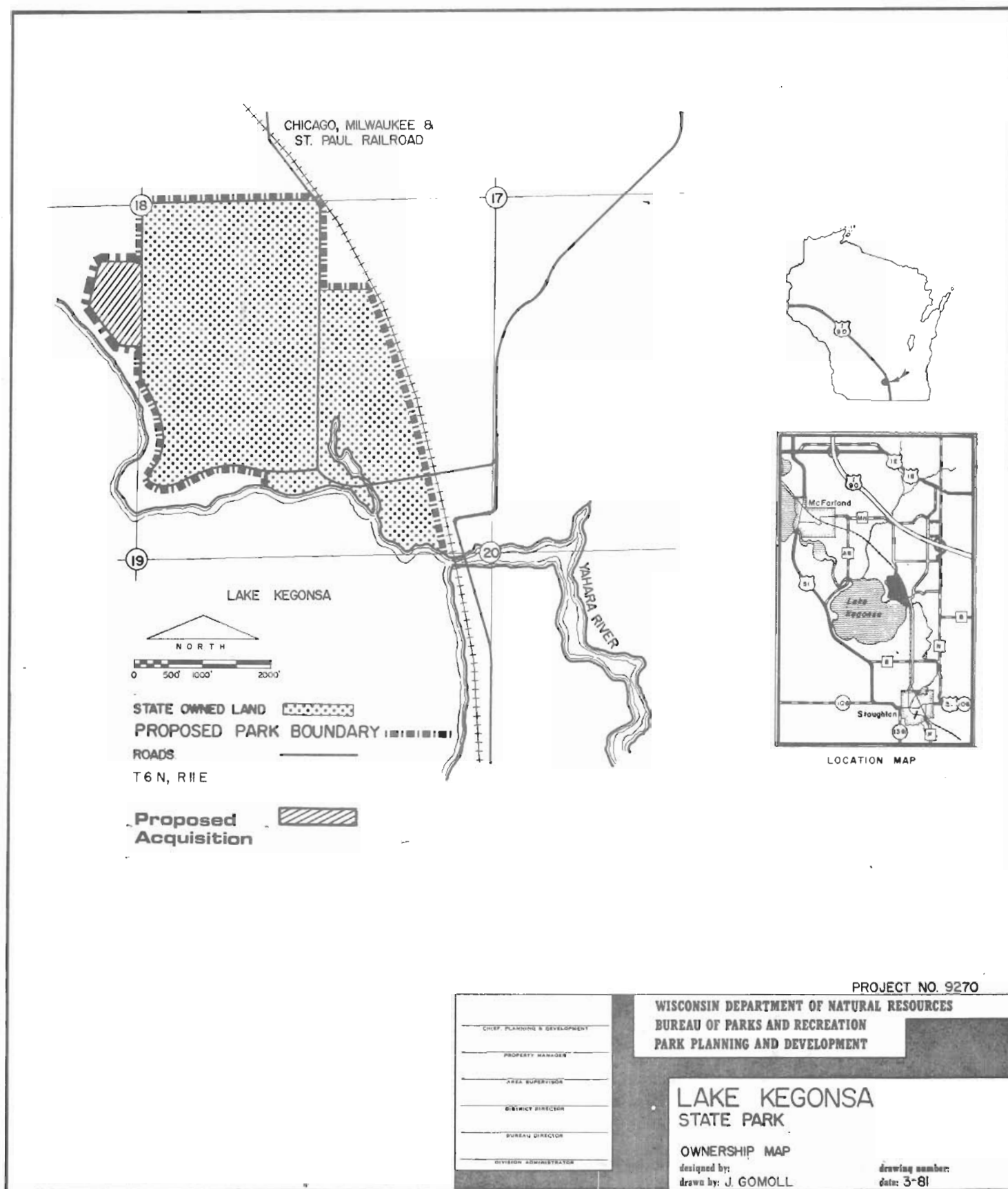


FIGURE 3





NOTE: For mapping symbols and terms refer to manual code 8625.2.

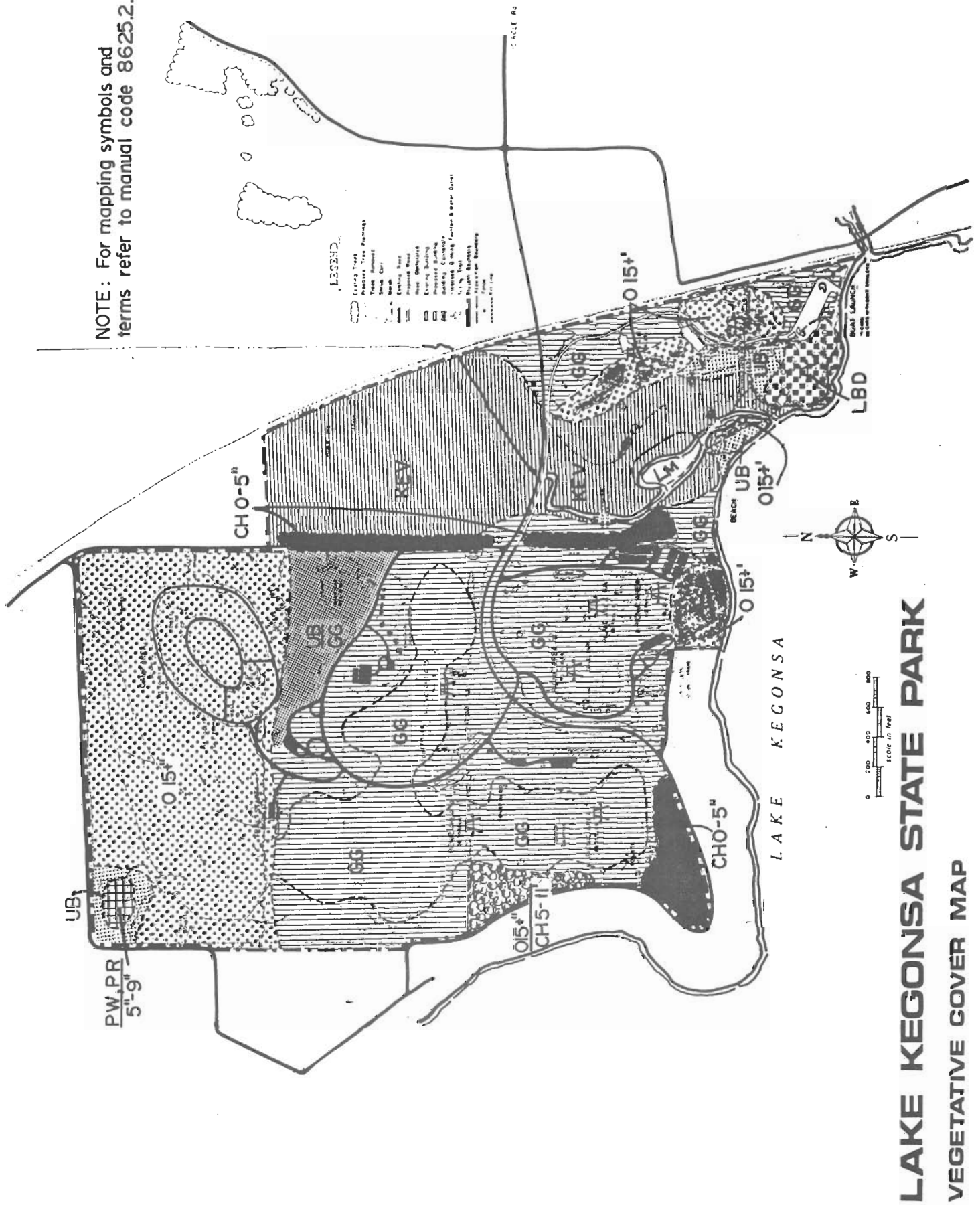


FIGURE 6

## SECTION II - SUPPORT AREA

### A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### 1. Location

The 342.81-acre Lake Kegonsa State Park is located in Dane County (Figures 1 and 2) and occupies parts of Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20 in the Town of Pleasant Springs, T6N, R11E. Lake Kegonsa forms the south boundary of the park, on the east are the Milwaukee Road railroad tracks and on the north is Fairview Street. The west boundary is formed by a private property and Circle Drive.

- a. Relationship to Highways: Main access to the park via Circle Drive is from County Highway N, located about 1 1/2 miles east of the property boundary. The park is located about 3 1/2 miles south of Interstate 90 and 5 1/2 miles north of U.S. Highway 51 and the City of Stoughton.
- b. Relationship to Population Center: Distances from population centers to the project area are given below:

Madison - 18 miles  
Janesville - 32 miles  
Milwaukee - 82 miles  
Chicago - 141 miles  
Rockford - 65 miles  
Beloit - 45 miles

Over one million people live within an hour drive of the park and over seven million people are within two hours of the property.

#### 2. History of the Area

Lake Kegonsa was referred to as "First Lake" by early settlers. It was given this name because it was the first of the four Madison area lakes they encountered as they traveled north along the Yahara River. The name "Kegonsa" is attributed to the Winnebago Indians who called the feature "Lake of Many Fishes."

Many of the pioneer settlers were immigrants from Norway. This ethnic presence is still important in the area. The immediate Lake Kegonsa State Park site has a long history of recreational use. As far back as the 1860's, when the site was known as "Sugarbush," it was freely used for camp meetings, picnics, trapping, hunting parties, boating and fishing. Before any immigrant settlement, Indians used the property as a village site.

3. Chronology of Property's Establishment and Development

1961 - As part of the establishment of ORAP 100, a plan was developed for three state parks to be located along the Interstate system. These parks were Willow River, Mirror Lake, and Lake Kegonsa.

October 24, 1962 - Lake Kegonsa was established as a state park by the State Conservation Commission.

1962-1965 - Lands for the park were acquired.

1965-1966 - Initial development of the park occurred.

August 12, 1966 - The park officially opened.

1967 - The town road bypass through the park was constructed.

1975-1976 - Redevelopment of the park, including relocation of the boat landing and construction of the beach curb and sunning area occurred.

4. Past and Present Management Activities

Lake Kegonsa State Park was originally used primarily for farming with some recreation in the form of cottages on the shore. The area of the family campground was probably used for woodlot purposes.

Lake Kegonsa State Park is managed to meet both day use and camping needs and currently has an annual attendance of approximately 174,000. Its facilities consist of the following (See Figure 4):

1. Family campground with 80 campsites
2. A group camp with a capacity of 100
3. Nine sets of toilets
4. Beach area changing stalls
5. 20 acres of picnic ground
6. 90 picnic tables
7. 19 grills
8. 381 parking spaces
9. 3.4 miles of park roads
10. 300 lineal feet of swimming beach
11. 3.3 miles of hiking trail
12. 1.45 miles of nature trail
13. 5 miles of snowmobile trail
14. One double boat landing with parking for 28 car-trailers and 9 cars
15. One trailer sanitation dumping station
16. One park manager's office and contact station
17. One maintenance building
18. One park manager's residence and garage

The project area is part of the Dane County Work Unit. The unit includes Lake Kegonsa State Park, Governor Nelson State Park, Aztalan State Park, and the Cross Plains Ice Age Unit.

The following personnel are employed annually at the park and may have secondary job responsibilities in the Dane County Work Unit:

3 permanent  
9 to 14 Limited Term Employees.

The following are attendance figures for the past five years.

<u>Years</u>	<u>Visitation</u>	<u>Campers</u>
1982	202,454	24,118
1981	170,257	27,464
1980	175,298	18,678
1979	174,726	21,565
1978	174,468	20,462

## B. RESOURCE CAPABILITIES AND INVENTORY

### 1. Geology

The park site is located along the southwestern border of the latest stage of glaciation--the Wisconsin Stage, so close to the driftless area that the terminal moraine of what once was a great ice pack is only three to five miles south and west of the park. The site is also on and along the course of what probably was the pre-glacial ancient Wisconsin River.

Lake Kegonsa and the others of the "Four-Lakes" of the Madison Area (Mendota, Monona, and Waubesa) were formed by the damming of the old river valley by glacial debris. Because of the relative youth of the post glacial drainage pattern, there is an indefinite and intermittent pattern to the network of small streams. The land adjacent to these water courses is often marshy as is evidenced on the eastern third of the park. The entire site is underlain by water bearing Cambrian Sandstone.

### 2. Soils

The soils on the site are generally split between well-drained upland soils on the western two-thirds of the property to poorly-drained lowland soils on the eastern one-third. The upland soils are mostly silt loams characterized by high fertility, permeability and erodability. The more level of these soils tend to be muddy, slippery, and subject to compaction when wet. They take a short period to dry out and are capable of supporting good turf as well as the growth of a wide variety of trees and shrubs.

The steeper of the upland slopes are highly erodible and should not be developed. Whalen silt loam is the largest individual soil type, occupying about 30% of the upland soils. It has bedrock within 2 to 4 feet of the surface, severely restricting excavation and sewage

treatment, but for most types of recreation has only slight limitations. The lowland soils consists of mucks and marshland with a few open water areas and are considered undevelopable.

### 3. Water Resources

The park site is dominated by 2,716-acre Lake Kegonsa, which has a maximum depth of 31 feet. The Yahara River is the major stream feeding the lake and serves as its outlet. The sand, gravel, and boulders that compose the lake substrate and the 9.54-mile-long shoreline are residues of the Wisconsin Glacier. A two-foot head is maintained by a dam at the lake's outlet.

Extensive marsh areas are located northwest and northeast of the park site along Door Creek with a smaller marshland making up the eastern third of the site. Only a few macrophytes inhabit the lake. Algae bloom is very dense during most summers.

Fish species are bluegill, white and black crappie, yellow perch, walleye, largemouth and smallmouth bass, white bass, northern pike, freshwater drum, dogfish, rockbass, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, yellow, brown and black bullhead, golden and emerald shiner, white sucker, longnose gar, carp, bluntnose minnow, northern brook silverside, log perch, and buffalo.

Periodic stocking of walleye occurs, though some natural reproduction is present. Rough fish removal by private contract has been in effect during the past decade. No winterkill of fish from lack of oxygen has been recorded. Age and growth data show that all fish species grow well in the lake.

There are five public boat launching sites on the lake including one at Lake Kegonsa State Park.

### 4. Vegetative Cover

The project area is a mixture of open grassland and prairie, upland and lowland brushy areas, abandoned farmfield, oak woods, and some pine planting (See Figure 6).

The diversity of plant communities reflect the varying degrees of moisture availability, the variety of soil types, and to some extent the varying exposures of slopes on the site.

Tree communities are largely of the dry southern forest type. Bur, white and black oak, and hickories are characteristic tree species of the site. Other tree species are black cherry, elm, ash, hackberry, aspen, willow, and black walnut. A small stand of white pine covering two acres is located on the northwestern corner of the property. Common shrubs are dogwood, viburnums, prickly ash, raspberry, willows, witchhazel, and ninebark.

The cover types found on the property are:

35% hardwood forest and groves  
20% marshland  
15% restored prairie  
1% pine plantation  
20% abandoned farmfield, open grassland and picnic area, with scattered tree and shrub plantings  
10% Other--including parking, buildings, beach, and roads

Much of the hardwood forest is mature timber, with some commercial logging having occurred on the property prior to 1962. The overstory is deteriorating due to old age of the trees.

5. Wildlife

The park provides habitat for deer, cottontail rabbits, grey and fox squirrels, raccoons, opossum, fox, muskrat, mink, ground squirrels, weasels, shrews, mice, and moles. Because of the park's relationship to Lake Kegonsa, numerous waterfowl including Canada geese, and most ducks common to Wisconsin plus green and great blue herons, are seen on the property especially during spring and fall migration.

Ringnecked pheasant, mallards, and ruffed grouse are nesters in the park.

There are no endangered or threatened species of terrestrial animals known to be present on the property. The variety of habitat types provide for a diverse songbird population, both resident and migratory species. The species of songbirds and raptors present at any time of the year are typical of southern Wisconsin avifauna. The diversity of birds present provides for good birding opportunities.

6. Site Inventory

Undeveloped Area	183.64 acres
Prairie	60.50 acres
Trails	27.58 acres
Family Campground	22.30 acres
Picnic Area	20.00 acres
Road	13.50 acres
Maintenance, Administrative and Residential Areas	5.03 acres
Beach and Sunning Areas	3.80 acres
Group Campground	3.64 acres
Boat Landing	2.00 acres
Indian Mounds	0.82 acres
	<hr/> 342.81 acres

7. Land Use Potential (Fig. 5)

Lands within the park boundary are classified as Intensive Recreation Development (IRD), Public Use Natural Area (N), Extensive Recreation Area (ERA), and Administrative (AD<sub>1</sub>). The location of these areas is illustrated on the development plan (Figure 4).

Intensive Recreation Development (IRD) accounts for approximately 75 acres and includes camping, picnicking, beach, and trail use - the boat landing, roads, and parking.

Nearly 61 acres of restored prairie are classified as Public Use Natural Area (N).

About 5 acres of the property including the park entrance visitors station, the shop-storage area, and the residence is Administrative (AD<sub>1</sub>).

The remainder of the site is the Extensive Recreation Area (ERA) and consists generally of the property's back country and buffer area. This classification accounts for about 202 acres.

8. Historical and Archaeological Features

The State Historical Society has identified eight archaeological sites in the park. The most obvious are four sites of group and linear Indian burial mounds located near the nature trail and family campground at the north end of the park. A fifth burial mound site, located in the southwest portion of the park, apparently has been destroyed.

The Sugar Bush Point area in the southeast portion of the park was the site of an Indian village as late as 1860 and is presently the site of a picnic area. A Paleo-Indian findspot is located near the beach on Lake Kegonsa. Another campsite is located on the marsh on the eastern side of the property. In the event of any new development in these areas, the State Historical Society will be contacted.

C. MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS

1. The hardwood stand, primarily in the area of the family campground, is deteriorating. There is little significant understory tree seedling development. Undesirable brush (prickly ash and honeysuckle) is prevalent.

2. Algae bloom from eutrophication of Lake Kegonsa is accelerating, creating undesirable swimming and beach conditions as well as adding to the siltation around the boat launch. A significant amount of siltation, however, occurs from wave action. Because of the lake's algae problem, many of the beach users are reluctant to swim.
3. Snowmobilers have strayed from designated trails, causing significant plant damage and vandalism.
4. The single greatest user complaint is the lack of shower facilities.

#### D. RECREATION NEEDS AND JUSTIFICATIONS

Most of the information contained in this section is derived from the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 1981 (SCORP). Lake Kegonsa State Park is located in SCORP Planning Region #9 which is comprised of Dane, Sauk, Columbia, Dodge, Jefferson, and Rock Counties.

Region #9 has well distributed resources and includes six state parks and a portions of the Kettle Moraine State Forest - Southern Unit as well as numerous county parks and public hunting and fishing areas. The Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area is the largest state-owned property in the region with over 11,000 acres. The DNR operated McKenzie Environmental Education Center and the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge are also found within this region.

The 1979 population of this planning region was almost 700,000 people or 14.6% of the state's total. The region is highly urbanized and its major cities are Madison, Janesville, Beloit, Beaver Dam, Watertown, and Fort Atkinson.

Within this region, all recreational activities note an increase in demand and need in the Plan's future.

The following needs for 1984 as outlined by SCORP are:

Bicycling Trails	635 miles
Developed Camping	2,280 campsites
Primitive Camping	410 campsites
Hiking Trails	541 miles
Pleasure Walking Trails	491 miles
Horseback Riding Trails	101 miles
Cross-Country Ski Trails	1,664 miles
Snowmobiling Trails	579 miles
Boat Access Sites	32 sites

In addition, a need for more swimming and picnic facilities continues to exist.

The Dane County Regional Planning Commission's Plan for Parks and Open Space (1970) outlines a need for increased facilities for all of the activities mentioned above, citing the fact that the County is the second fastest growing metropolitan area in the northeastern United States with a 2010 population of over 400,000 people expected.

## E. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

### 1. No Change - Status Quo

The park would continue to operate as it has in the past. No organized attempt would be made to overcome the listed management problems and there would be little change in the degree of resource protection. Any development would be done as it became necessary or desirable, if and when funds become available.

### 2. Moderate Improvement Over Existing Use and Development

Park attendance would be increased by about 10% to 200,000 users per year. Accommodating more park visitors would be in keeping with the data in the 1981 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan that indicates there is a demand in Region 9, which includes Dane County for more camp sites, swimming facilities, trails, etc. The problems as addressed in the master plan would be studied and solved. The acquisition of 11 acres of land would contribute to protecting the aesthetic and visual integrity of the park.

### 3. More Intensive Improvement Over Existing Use and Development

While this alternative would substantially contribute to fulfilling the directive of SCORP, the ability of the park to sustain a large increase in users is questioned. Most of the park's developable land is developed or in use. Any large increase in use would require substantial land acquisition. Much of the surrounding land is wet and undevelopable or separated from the park by the road, causing the use to be split by a public highway. A number of major destination parks already lie within an hour's drive of Lake Kegonsa State Park.

0848B

## CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: December 15, 1983

File Ref: 2100

To: Cliff Germain - ER/4

From: D. Weizenicker 

Subject: SAPC Comments on Lake Kegonsa State Park Master Plan

This is in response to the Council's comments on the Lake Kegonsa State Park Master Plan. The following will address the Council's question on the need to remove cull overstory trees and practice brush control.

Removal of cull trees combined with tree planting is recommended to maintain a healthy forest cover in the campground because the overstory is deteriorating due to old age. Dead and dying trees in the undeveloped areas of the park will be retained for nesting and feeding birds.

Brush control of honeysuckle and prickly ash will also be limited to the campground. Both species are useful for screening in the immediate campsite area but their aggressiveness in other areas of the campground inhibits growth of more desirable understory species.

The vegetative management section on page two and three of the master plan has been rewritten accordingly to more clearly express our intentions.

Thank you for the Council's comments on the Lake Kegonsa Master Plan.

DJK:sb

cc: J. Treichel - P&R/4  
D. Kulhanek - P&R/4   
D. Morrisette - Nevin



# The State of Wisconsin

NOV 15 1983

SCIENTIFIC AREAS PRESERVATION COUNCIL

Box 7921  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

IN REPLY REFER TO: 2100

November 8, 1983

Mr. David Weizenicker  
Bureau of Parks & Recreation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Dave:

We have reviewed the Lake Kegonsa State Park Concept Master Plan and find that the proposed management and development will not impact significant natural areas. We do question the need to remove cull overstory trees and practice brush control, since natural processes usually provide a diversity of tree species and habitat for desirable wildlife species.

Cordially,

*Forest Stearns*  
Forest Stearns  
Chairman

# CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: October 19, 1983

File Ref: 1430

To: Dave Weizenicker - P&R/4

From: Richard Lindberg 

Subject: Lake Kegonsa Master Plan

The Wild Resources Advisory Council informs me that this property has no wild resource potentials and WRAC, therefore, has no comments to make regarding the proposed master plan.

RL:jn

Note: (This revision combines Form 1600-1 and  
1600-2 into one form.)

DISTRICT OR BUREAU	S. District
DOCKET NUMBER	#1411
TYPE LIST DESIGNATION(S)	e4

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
(ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)  
(REFERENCE INFORMATION SOURCES UTILIZED)

**Applicant:** Department of Natural Resources

**Title of Proposal:** Lake Kegonsa State Park Master Plan - Concept Element

**Location:** County Dane  
Township 6 North, Range 11 East, ~~West~~  
Section(s) 17, 18, 19, 10  
Political Town Pleasant Springs

**PROJECT SUMMARY**

1. **General Description (brief overview)** Purchase 11 acres of farm land from one owner on the property's west boundary increasing the parks acreage to 353.81 acres. No improvements are included in the purchase. Develop a bathhouse with showers, restrooms and changing area in the beach area. Expand family campground from 72 to 100 sites with support facilities including blacktop road, toilets, and drinking water. Construct 2 open picnic shelters - one near the beach and the other near the boat launch. Eliminate snowmobile trails on the property. Develop tree and shrub plantings on the periphery of the park, in the picnic areas and in the group camp. Establish and maintain a sand blanket in the beach area. Periodically dredge in vicinity of boat launch about every 10 years. Selectively cut hardwoods for stand perpetuation and to open the overstory for development of desirable understory plants.

2. **Purpose and Need (include history and background as appropriate)** Purchase of land would eliminate potential subdivision development on park boundary. Bathhouse would replace inadequate temporary facilities in beach area. Picnic shelters would provide inclement weather protection for park users in key areas. Family campground expansion would satisfy growing use pressure in area. The campground was filled every weekend day in the summer of 1982 and had 20-30 turnaways per weekend day. Snowmobilers have been misusing the park by straying from designated trails, damaging the resource. The sand blanket would replace an existing beach consisting of large uncomfortable stones. The dredging would eliminate a siltation problem.

3. **Authorities and Approvals (list statutory authority and other relevant local, state and federal permits or approvals required)**

- (a) 30.20 (dredging)
- (b) 30.12 (sand blanket)
- (c) County zoning approval

4. **Estimated Cost and Funding Source**  
#259,000 (1982 cost) ORAP Funding.

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## PROPOSED PHYSICAL CHANGES

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5. **Manipulation of Terrestrial Resources (include relevant quantities - sq. ft., cu. yds., etc.)** The addition of 28 sites to the family campground would result in the involvement of between 2 and 4 acres of land. Very little topographic change would occur as the site is quite flat and construction would conform to the landscape.

6. **Manipulation of Aquatic Resources (include relevant quantities - cfs., acre feet, MGD, etc.)** Dredging of the boat launch site by dragline in an area of about 100 feet wide by 675 feet long by 1.5 feet deep would result in the removal of approximately 3,750 cubic yards of material. This would be spread on upland over the west end of the boat launch picnic area and over playfields located 300 yards north of the dredge site. Construction of the beach blanket would total about 1600 cubic yards of sand spread over an area of about 300 feet long by 300 feet wide at a depth of approximately 6 inches.

### 7. **Buildings, Treatment Units, Roads and Other Structures**

The bathhouse, picnic shelters, and campground toilets would all be located on quite level sites. Only minor excavation would be required for construction. Campground road construction would occur immediately west of the existing family campground and would total about 1200 feet in length. Construction would conform to the generally flat landscape and would require little or no topographic manipulation. No buildings would be removed from the acquisition area.

### 8. **Emissions and Discharges**

Some additional sewage would be created by increased development near the beach boat launch and in the campground. This additional sewage would either be self contained or would feed into a programmed regional sewage system.

### 9. **Other Changes**

### 10. **Attach Maps, Plans and Other Descriptive Material as Appropriate (list)**

- Figure 1. Regional locator map
- Figure 2. County locator map
- Figure 3. Ownership map
- Figure 4. Development map
- Figure 5. Land use classification map
- Figure 6. Vegetative cover map
- Figure 7. Soils map and legend

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**AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

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Information Based On (check all that apply):

- ☒ Literature/correspondence  
☒ Personal Contacts (list in item 31)  
Field Analysis By: ☒ Author, ☒ Other (list in item 31)  
Past Experience With Site By: ☒ Author ☒ Other (list in item 31)

**11. Physical (topography - soils - water - air - wetland amounts and types)**

The site is generally gently rolling to quite flat in some areas. The soils are generally split between well drained upland soils (see figure 7) on the western 2/3 of the property to poorly drained lowland soils on the eastern third. The presence of bedrock close to the surface severely restricts construction and sewage treatment on 30% of the upland soils. Air quality is good as the site is in a rural location. 20% of the site is marshland and lowland brush. Lake Kegonsa is 2,716 acres with a maximum depth of 31 feet and is fed primarily by the

**12.a Biological**

Yahara River.

a. **Flora** The project area is a mixture of open grassland and prairie, upland and lowland, brushy areas, abandoned farm field, oak woods and some pine planting. Tree communities are largely of the dry southern forest type. The cover types of the property are: 35% hardwood forest. 20% marshland, 15% restored prairie, 1 % pine plantation, 20% abandoned farm field, grassland and picnic area and 10% development. Much of the hardwood forest is mature timber with some deteriorating overstory.

b. **Fauna** The park contains deer, rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, opossum, fox, muskrat, mink, ground squirrel, weasel, shrews, mice and moles. Because of the property's relationship to Lake Kegonsa, numerous waterfowl are present at certain times of the year. There are no endangered or threatened species of animals known to be present on the property. The lakes fishery includes walleye, bluegill, croppie, perch, bass, northern pike, pumpkinseed, bullhead,

**13. Social/Economic (include ethnic and cultural groups, and zoning if applicable)**

The acquisition of 11 acres would create a zoning change from Agricultural to recreational.

longnose gar  
& carp. Periodic  
stocking of  
walleye occur

**14. Other Special Resources (e.g., archaeological, historical, endangered/threatened species, scientific areas, natural areas)**

The State Historical Society has identified eight archaeological sites in the park. The most obvious are four sites of group and linear Indian burial mounds located near the nature trail and family campground at the north end of the park. A fifth burial mound site, located at the southwest portion of the park, apparently has been destroyed. The sugar bush point area in the southeast portion of the park was the site of an Indian village as late as 1860 and is presently the site of a picnic area. A Paleo-Indian findspot is located near the beach on Lake Kegonsa. Finally, a campsite is located on the marsh on the eastern side of the property.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES (probable adverse and beneficial impacts including indirect and secondary impacts)**

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15. **Physical (include visual if applicable)** Construction may result in some disruption, but the long term benefits would far outweigh the short term disruption. Some turbidity and siltation would occur during dredging and sandblanket application. There would be no involvement of any of the parks wetlands.

16. **Biological** Some trees would be removed in the area of campground expansion, but effort would be made to reduce the number to a minimum by utilizing open spaces wherever possible. Trees removed would be salvaged for use in park or for timber sale wherever possible. Some animal displacement may occur due to construction, but this amount would be minimal. Dredging and sand blanket application will destroy some aquatic organisms. Fish habitat, including potential panfish spawning sites will be temporarily impacted.

17. **Social/Economic (include ethnic and cultural groups and zoning if applicable)**  
Development and construction would play a significant role in a moderate increase in attendance from approximately 170,000 users in 1982 to about 200,000 users by 1993. This would result in higher traffic counts on local and regional roads as well as more activity on the shore and in the waters of Lake Kegonsa. Increased attendance in the park would have a beneficial effect on the areas economy. The acquisition would remove 11 acres from the tax role of the township. Payment in lieu of taxes will be made.  
No condemnation would be used on the purchase of the 11 acre site.

18. **Other Special Resources (e.g., archaeological, historical, endangered/threatened species, scientific areas, natural areas)**  
No construction activity will occur in the area of the eight archaeological sites. No endangered or threatened species of any type are known to be affected by the proposal.

19. **Probable Adverse Impacts That Cannot Be Avoided**  
Some wildlife and vegetation would be destroyed or disrupted during construction. The increase in attendance will put added traffic pressure on area and regional highways which may result in some additional repair and the increased potential for accidents.

20. Identify, describe and discuss feasible alternatives to the proposed action and their impacts. Give particular attention to alternatives which might avoid some or all adverse environmental effects.

(1) No change - Status Quo. The park would continue to operate as it has in the past. No organized attempt would be made to overcome the existing problems and there would be little change in the degree of resource protection. The end result would be a continuation of siltation in the area of the boat launch eventually limiting or eliminating use there. Users would continue to do without a bathhouse and shelters - facilities that would greatly improve conveniences to the park. By not expanding the campground, the direction of the park would be contrary to findings of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), which calls for more family camping opportunities wherever possible in the location of Lake Kegonsa State Park. The continuation of snowmobiling would continue the degradation of the resource and result in additional law enforcement problems. By not acquiring the 11 acres to the west of the park, the Department would risk undesirable development to occur at a key location that could reduce the users recreational experience. By continuing to use the rocky beach surface, the Department would discourage people from using the facility.

(2) More intensively develop. This alternative would substantially contribute to fulfilling the directives of SCORP, but the ability of the park to physically sustain a large increase in users is questionable. Most of the parks developable land is in use and any large increase in use would result in degradation of the existing resource or would require substantial land acquisition. Much of the surrounding land is wet and undevelopable or separated from the park by road, causing potential park use to be split by a public highway.

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**EVALUATION (Discuss each category. Attach additional sheets and other pertinent information if necessary.)**

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21. **Secondary Effects:** As a result of this action, is it likely that other events or actions will happen that may significantly affect the environment? If so, list here and reference their discussion in items 15-18 as appropriate.

The significant action would be an increase in attendance as noted in item 17. This would positively benefit the areas economy, while creating a moderate increase on area and regional traffic.

22. **New Environmental Effect:** Does the action alter the environment so a new physical, biological or socio-economic environment would exist? If so, list here and reference their discussion in items 5-10 or 15-18 as appropriate. No

23. **Geographically Scarce:** Are the existing environmental features that would be affected by the proposed action scarce, either locally or statewide? If so, list here and reference their discussion in items 15-18 as appropriate. No

24. **Precedent:** Does the action and its effect(s) require a decision which would influence future decisions? Describe. No

25. **Controversy:** Discuss and describe concerns which indicate a serious controversy or unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.

Closing the 1.3 mile pass-through snowmobile trail shown on Figure 4 is under consideration and may be controversial.

26. **Consistency With Plans:** Does the action conflict with local or agency zoning or with official agency plans or policy of local, state or federal government (e.g., NR 1.95)? If so, how? Refer to applicable comments in item 31.

Development would occur entirely on Department owned land.

27. **Cumulative Impacts:** While the action by itself may be limited in scope, would repeated actions of this type result in major or significant impacts to the environment?

The only action that would be repeated would be the periodic dredging around the boat launch and periodic replacement of the beach blanket. Neither action would have significant impact on the environment.

28. **Foreclose Future Options:** Is the action irreversible? Will it commit a resource (e.g., energy, habitat, historical features) for the foreseeable future?

Since no significant topographic disruption would occur to the landscape, development could be removed at some later date and the site returned to a presettlement condition.

29. **Socio-cultural Impacts:** Will action result in direct or indirect impacts on ethnic or cultural groups or alter social patterns?

☐ No

☒ Yes, refer to item 17.

30. **Other:**

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**LIST OF AGENCIES, GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROJECT (Include DNR personnel and Title)**

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31.	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comment Summary</u>
	May 13, 1982	Richard Dexter State Historical Society	Confirmation and discussion Concerning archaeological sites on property
	Continuing	Bob Weiss - Lake Kegonsa Superintendent	Variety of info concerning property and management
	Continuing	Cliff Brynildson	fish management and water resources
	<del>Continuing</del>	<del>Tom Bergquist</del>	<del>Wildlife Management</del>
	Continuing	Paul Pingrey	7. Forest management

Project Name: L. Kymen S.P.M.P

County: Dane  
H1471

RECOMMENDATION

EIS Not Required..... ☒

Analysis of the expected impacts of this proposal is of sufficient scope and detail to conclude that this is not a major action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. In my opinion therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required prior to final action by the Department on this project.

Refer to Office of the Secretary..... ☐

Major and Significant Action: Prepare EIS..... ☐

Request EIR..... ☐

Additional factors, if any, affecting the evaluator's recommendation:

SIGNATURE OF EVALUATOR <u>David J. Blum</u>	DATE <u>5-31-83</u>
NOTES: AREA SUPERVISOR OR BUREAU DIRECTOR <u>Jon H. Warren</u>	DATE <u>5-31-83</u>

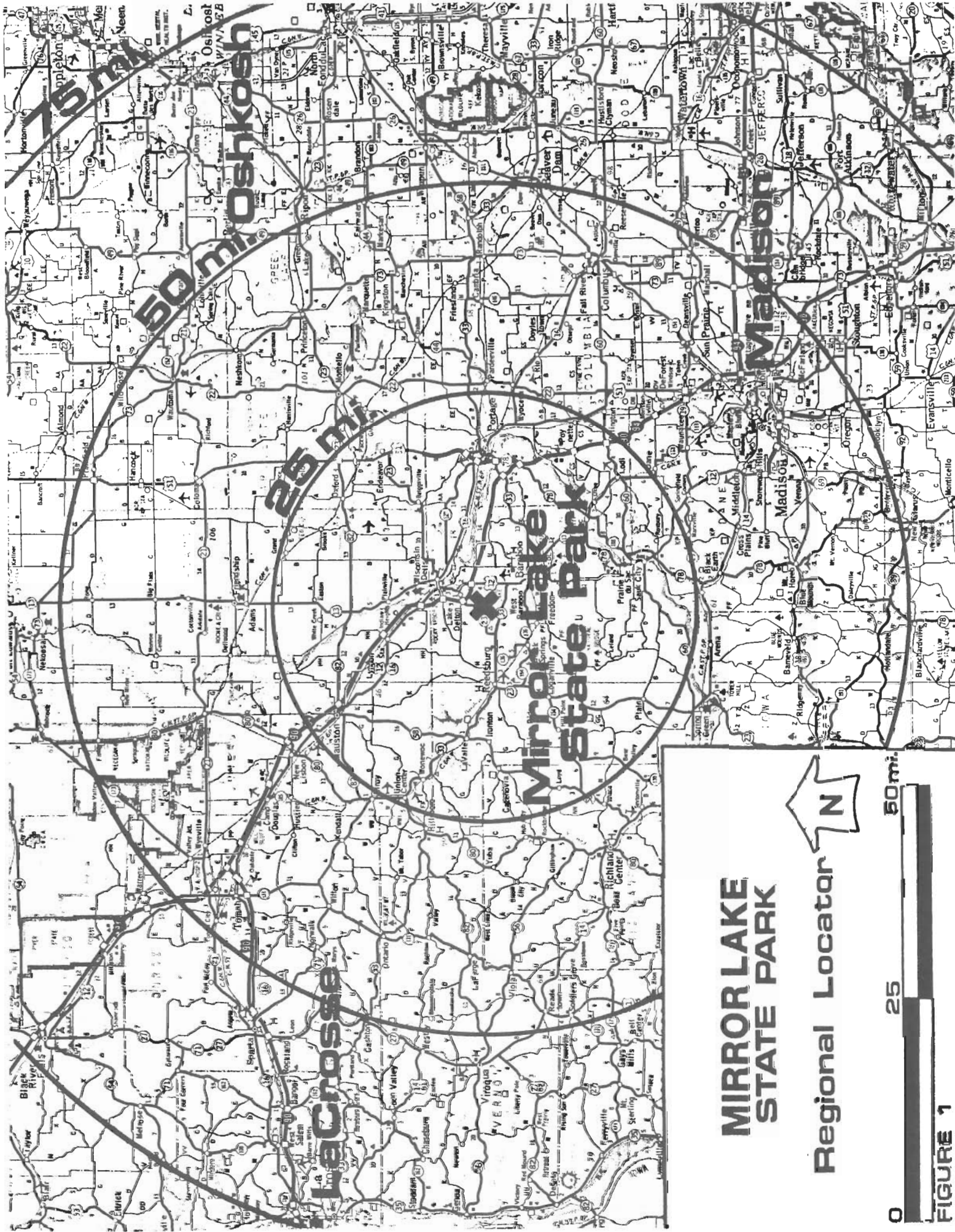
Number of responses to public notice 2

Public response log attached?..... yes

CERTIFIED TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH WEPA DISTRICT DIRECTOR OR DIRECTOR OF BEI (OR DESIGNEE) <u>James Bellamy</u>	DATE <u>10/26/83</u>
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This decision is not final until certified by the appropriate District Director or the Director of BEI.

*Plutonium this page*  
*Aschmann*  
*H Meier*  
*Kellman*



# MIRROR LAKE STATE PARK

Regional Locator

50 mi.

25

FIGURE 1



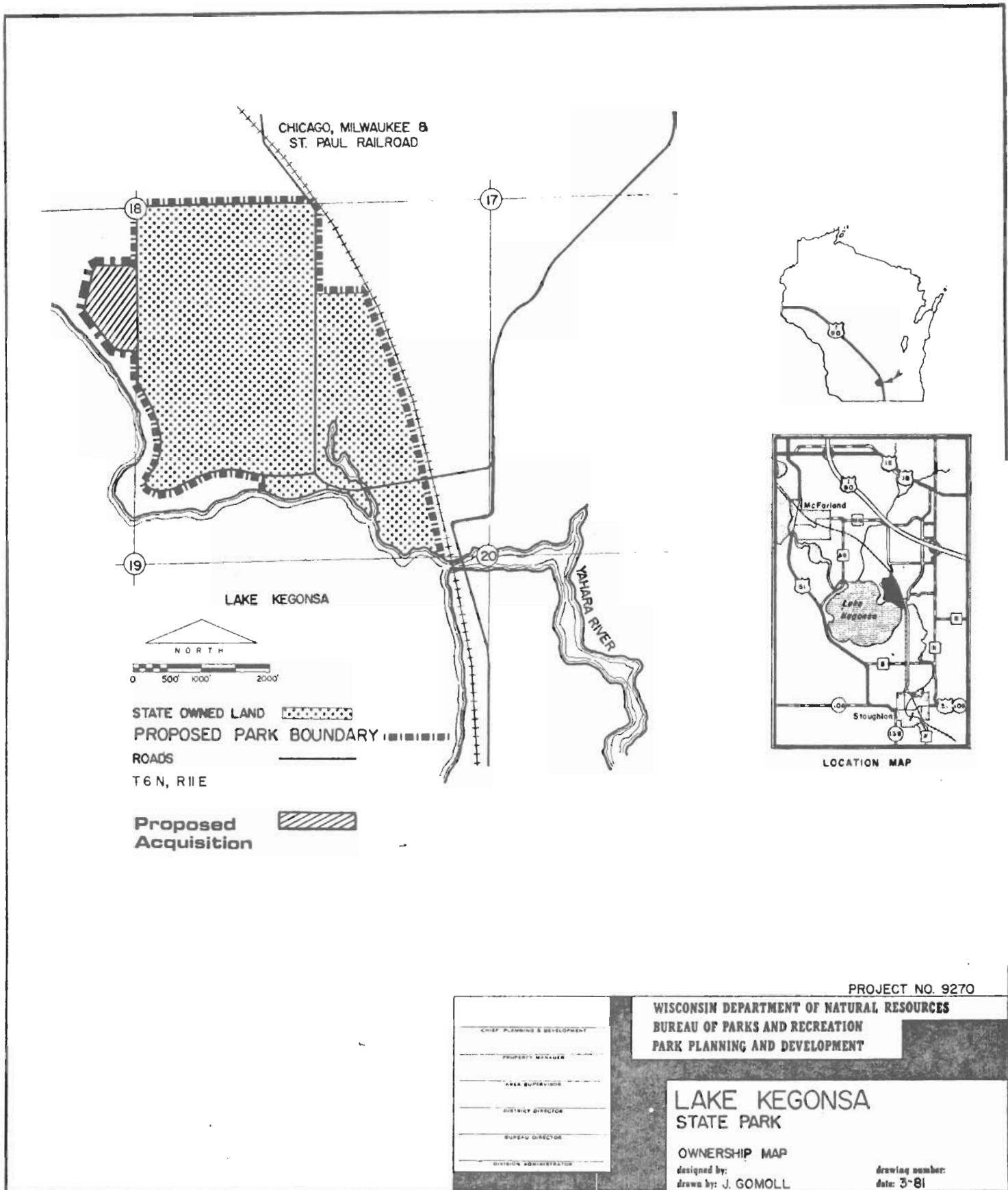
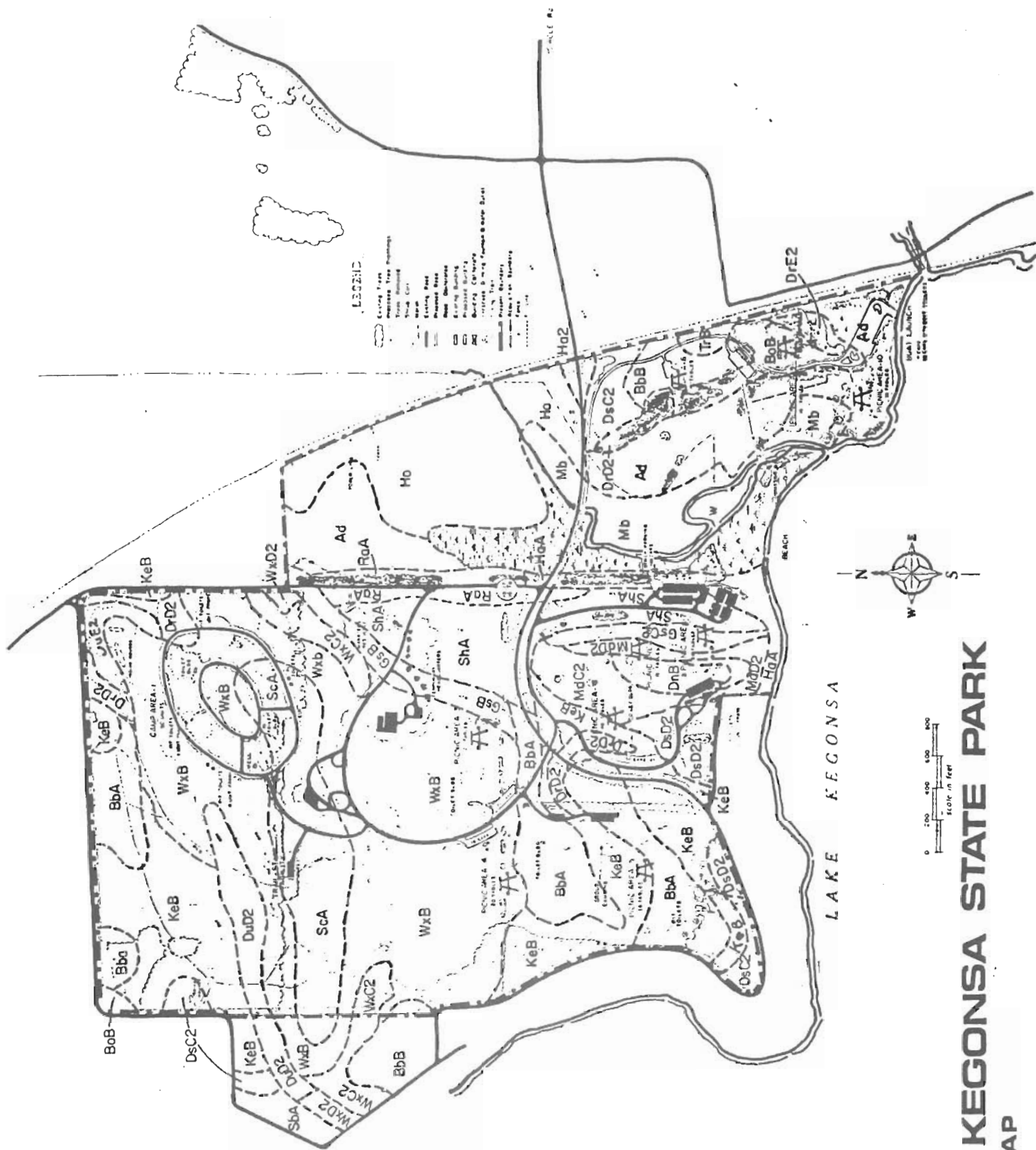


FIGURE 3





**FIGURE 6**



# LAKE KEGONSA STATE PARK SOILS MAP

FIGURE 7

# CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: January 24, 1984

File Ref: 2510

To: L. Posekany - EI/3

From:

D. Weizenicker

*D. Weizenicker*

Subject: Amendment to EA #1411 - Lake Kegonsa State Park Master Plan Concept Element

The following amends the approved environmental assessment #1411 prepared for the Lake Kegonsa State Park Concept Master Plan. This amendment includes the added proposal to construct a shower building in the existing family campground and addresses a zoning change which is an alternative to state acquisition of the 11 acres recommended for purchase.

## Project Summary:

### 1) General Description (overview)

A 6-stall shower building will be constructed in the existing family campground to satisfy camper demand for showers.

It is recommended that the park boundary be expanded to include an 11-acre parcel of private land needed to protect the view from within the park from residential development. The 11-acre parcel is currently within the Lake Kegonsa Urban Service Area which means that it has been determined to be an area suitable for development and to be served by sanitary sewer. The 11 acres is zoned partly A-1 Exclusive Agriculture (9 acres) and B-1 Local Business (2 acres). If the 9-acre portion were removed from under the Urban Service Area and the A-1 Exclusive zoning retained, the objective of protecting the view from within the park could be achieved without acquiring the land. This would have to be worked out in concert with the landowner, the town, and the county.

### 4) Estimated Cost and Funding Source

\$319,000 (1984 cost) ORAP funding.

Proposed Physical Changes

7) Buildings, Treatment Units, Roads, and Other Structures

The proposed 6-stall shower building will be of standard design and will contain about 400 square feet. Construction will also include about 1,500 square feet of septic field with the actual size dependent on soil conditions and a 2,500 gallon septic tank. The foundation, septic tank, and drain field will require excavation of about 50 cubic yards of soil. All excavated material will be spread on-site, graded, and landscaped to improve surface drainage and eliminate hauling of the surplus soil. Utilities will include water from an existing well if the capacity is sufficient. If the capacity is not sufficient, then a new well will be required. Electrical service will be underground. All utilities will be carefully backfilled and the disturbed area seeded.

8) Emissions and Discharges

Up to 2,500 gallons of waste water could be discharged per day into the septic system for the proposed shower building during the summer use season.

After reviewing the original assessment and this amendment, we believe the impacts of the Lake Kegonsa State Park Master Plan proposals have been adequately addressed.

DJK:sb

Attach.

cc: D. Kulhanek - P&R/4  
D. Aslakson - Nevin  
H. Meier - Nevin

